



NEVADA COUNTY HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

Michael Heggarty, MFT
Agency Director

Department of Social Services

Mike Dent, MPA
Department of Social Services
Director

950 Maidu Ave., PO Box 1210
10075 Levon Ave., Ste 202
988 McCourtney Road

Nevada City, CA 95959
Truckee, CA 96161
Grass Valley, CA 95949

Telephone (530) 265-1340 FAX (530) 265-9860
Telephone (530) 582-7803 FAX (530) 582-7729
Telephone (530) 265-1340 FAX (530) 274-1049

NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Board Agenda Memo

MEETING DATE: September 12, 2017

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Mike Dent

SUBJECT: An Ordinance amending Section A-II 39.10 of Article 39 of Chapter II of the Nevada County Administrative Code regarding method of payment of General Assistance.

RECOMMENDATION: Introduce and waive further reading of the attached Ordinance Section A-II 39.10 of Article 39 of Chapter II of the Nevada County Administrative Code regarding method of payment of General Assistance.

FUNDING: The General Assistance (GA) program is funded by the County General Fund to provide a safety net for indigent adults who do not qualify for other relief programs. The financial assistance provided to individuals is in the form of a repayable loan and the revenue from paid loans is used to re-fund the GA program. This Ordinance does not alter the funding level or mechanism for the GA program.

BACKGROUND: The GA program is authorized by the California Welfare and Institutions Code, Division 9, Part 5, Sections 17000 through 17410, as well as Section A-II 39.6 through 39.14 of Article 39 of Chapter II of the County of Nevada Administrative Code. The revision to the Administrative Code before you today will allow for increased flexibility in the method of General Assistance payments, including by way of electronic benefit cards. The use of electronic benefits cards will allow for: efficient processing for Eligibility & Fiscal Staff; eliminate fees charged to customers to cash hard copies of checks; monies will be automatically issued onto the card; eco-conscious elimination of printing paper; and customers will not have to wait/drive back to pick-up hard copy of check.

Upon adoption of this Ordinance, the Department will bring a revision of the General Assistance Program Manual to the Board for approval. The proposed revisions for the new manual will bring the GA program in alignment with current state and federal indigent assistance programs such as CalWORKs, CalFresh and Medi-Cal. Included in these revisions is the change from hard copy checks to electronic benefit transfer cards; therefore, necessitating the amendment to the County Administrative Code regarding the method of payment of General Assistance.

Item Initiated & Approved by: Mike Dent, MPA Department of Social Services Director